

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces and supersedes all previous listings.

1. (Original) A knitting method of a tubular knitted fabric with a projection part having stretch and a supporting performance by using a flat knitting machine having at least a pair of front and back needle beds extending in a traverse direction and disposed opposite to each other in a cross direction, at least either of which is capable of being racked in the traverse direction so that loops can be transferred between the front and back needle beds, the method comprising:

the step 1 of knitting a knitted fabric in a tubular form joined at both ends of a knitting width by a rib knitting, while inserting an elastic yarn in the tubular body by an inlay, and

the step 2 of knitting only a part for the projection part to be formed on at least either of a front side of the tubular knitted fabric and a back side of the same by a flechage knitting,

the step 1 and the step 2 being repeatedly carried out.

2. (Original) The knitting method of the tubular knitted fabric according to Claim 1, wherein the tubular body and the projection part are knitted using an elastic yarn.

3. (Original) A tubular knitted fabric having a projection part having stretch and a supporting performance by using a flat knitting machine having at least a pair of front

and back needle beds extending in a traverse direction and disposed opposite to each other in a cross direction, at least either of which is capable of being racked in the traverse direction so that loops can be transferred between the front and back needle beds,

wherein the tubular knitted fabric is knitted in a tubular form joined at both ends of a knitting width by a rib knitting, while inserting an elastic yarn in the tubular body by an inlay, and has the projection part formed on at least either of a front side of the tubular knitted fabric and a back side of the same by a flechage knitting.

4. (Original) The tubular knitted fabric according to Claim 3, wherein the projection part is formed in an arbitrary shape and at an arbitrary location on the tubular knitted fabric by the flechage knitting.

5. (Currently Amended) The tubular knitted fabric according to Claim 4, wherein the projection part is formed in an area of the tubular body extending in a course extending direction thereof and having a plurality of courses, one or more courses of said plurality have a different in number of stitches than another one or more courses of said plurality.